

Remarks

This responds to the Ex parte Quale Office Action. The pending claims remain 67-82. It is noted that Claim 67 is allowed, and that Claims 68-79 and 80-82 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections and rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, set forth in the outstanding Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As discussed below, all of the objections and rejections have been addressed, and accordingly, it is believed that all of the pending Claims 67-82 are in condition for allowance.

A. Response to Page 2, Paragraph No. 2 of the Office Action

Line 3 of this objection begins "Claim 71 reads "said central hole U"; It is presumed that it was intended to read "Claim 77..." which claim has now been amended to resolve the objection by the change to "designated U"..

Claims 79, 81 and 82 are each amended to include recitation of the structure of the device of Claim 74.

B. Response to the Page 3, Paragraph No. 4

Claims 68, 74, 76, 78, 80, 81 and 82 are amended to overcome the issues of indefiniteness and insufficient antecedent bases, particularly changing "central portion" to "central body".

Regarding the last two lines on page 3 of the Office Action, Claims 69-72, 75, 77 and 79 which depend on Claims 65, 74 or 76, are believed to now be allowable because Claims 68, 74 and 78 have been amended as required to overcome objections thereto.

Claim 81 is further amended as regards the following obvious typographical errors:

(1) subparagraphs (d), (e) and (f) are corrected to be (c), (d) and (e) respectively,

(2) subparagraph (e) is corrected to read "conducts the other of said two steps in paragraph (b)".

Lastly, the requirement in Page 2, Paragraph 1 of the Office Action, for submittal of a certified copy of the priority document is noted. It is believed that such was arranged by applicant's Transmittal Letter, Form PTO-1390 filed January 31, 2005 per Box 5; however, if this is not satisfactory, applicant will promptly obtain and submit the required certified priority document.

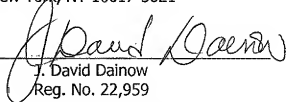
In view of the above-noted amendments to the claims and corresponding explanation, it is believed that all requirements are met for allowance of pending Claims 67-82, and such favorable action is respectfully requested.

If there are any further issues, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned counsel by phone or email to expedite a resolution thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

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